

CLAIMS

We I claim:

1. A method for dynamically trading and distributing electric power, comprising the steps of:

5 (a) continuously collecting by a control node bids and asks from buyers and sellers of electric power;

(b) dynamically matching by the control node the collected bids and asks to form matches; and

10 (c) configuring an electric network to route electric power in response to the control node in accordance with the matches generated in said step (b).

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (c) of configuring includes switching the flow of electric power in the electric network.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (c) further comprises dynamically effecting the matches generated in said step (b).

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (a) further comprises collecting the bids and asks in a spot market.

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5. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (a) comprises collecting the bids and asks via a wide area network.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said step (a) comprises inputting the bids and asks to the wide area network via respective buyer terminals and seller terminals.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (d) comprises configuring an electric network comprising a high voltage direct current system.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) comprises receiving current supply and demand conditions on the electric network via a feedback loop and using the current supply and demand for dynamically matching bids and asks.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said step (b) further comprises generating a route plan for each of the matches using the current supply and demand conditions.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein said step (b) comprises continuously updating the matches based on changes in the bids and asks.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said step (b) comprises continuously updating the matches based on changes in the bids and asks.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said step (b) further comprises
5 matching an equal share of the power from a seller with the lowest asking price to all bids of buyers to which the power is available.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein said step (b) further comprises
10 matching a share of the power from a seller with the lowest asking price to all bids of buyers to which the power is available, wherein the share is proportional to the amount of power demanded by the buyer.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein said step (b) further comprises
15 matching the ask of the power from a seller with the lowest asking price first to the bids of buyers with the highest amount of power demanded.

15. A system for dynamically trading and supplying electric power,
comprising a control node for continuously receiving bids and asks from buyers and sellers,
matching the received bids and asks to form matched bids and asks and continuously and
20 dynamically updating the matched bids and asks in accordance with changes occurring in the bids and asks, said control node being connectable to an electric network capable of routing

electric power between buyers and sellers and for activating switching devices connected to said electric network for switching a flow of power in the electric network to effect the matching of the bids and asks.

5 16. The system of claim 15, wherein said control node is connectable to a wide area network for receiving the bids and asks from buyers and sellers.

10 17. The system of claim 15, wherein said control node comprises a deal maker module for matching said bids and asks and a route planner module for planning a route for effecting the matched bids and asks.

15 18. The system of claim 17, wherein said control node comprises an accounting module connectable for determining the actual use of the buyer and determining the charge to the buyer.